(iv) Safety drives, surprise checks and night inspections to check the alertness of gatemen and train drivers.

(v) Social awareness programmes involving educative campaigns through various media like quickies on Television, cinema slides, posters, talks on radio, newspaper advertisements and street plays. Involvement of local bodies like Panchayat and Municipality in educating the road vehicle users and joint ambush checks with State authorities.

Female foeticide

*7. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of female fetuses aborted in the country during the last two decades;

(b) whether it is a fact that the aborted figure may be equivalent to the population of some small countries as per the study of the United Nations Population Fund;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being taken by the Centre to eschew a gender imbalance with alarming social consequences for the future?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) State/UT wise incidents of foeticide reported during 1994 to 2004 is given as per enclosd statement (*See* below). The male and female break-up of foeticide is not maintained.

(b) and (c) No such study has been done by United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA).

(d) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has undertaking training of trainers from State Judicial Academies to train lower judiciary and public prosecutors with the objective to sensitize the judiciary on the issue. National Inspection and Monitoring Committee (NIMC) having representatives of Department of Women & Child Development, National Commission for Women, Indian Council for Medical Research as members, undertakes periodic visits to the districts with low child sex ratio (0-6 years) to oversee the implementation of the Act at ground level and monitors the prosecutions launched against unregistered bodies and

bodies violating provisions of the Act/Rules and directions of the Supreme Court of India in the matter. The National Support and Monitoring Cell has been constituted as a mechanism to help Appropriate Authorities in apprehending actual wrong doer who are committing female foeticide/ abetting female foeticide.

It is, nevertheless, recognized that mere legislation is not enough to deal with this problem that has roots in social behaviour and prejudices. A number of activities to create awareness on the issue are being undertaken. The initiatives include meeting with the organizations working against sex selection, involvement of the medical professionals, religious leaders to spread the message, requesting police training academies and schools to include the issues in curriculum for their training, telecasting of PNDT spots on private satellite channels and Doordarshan, and involvement of elected representatives etc. A 'Save the Girl Child' Campaign with a view to lessen son preference by highlighting achievements of young girls has been launched. District Magistrates have also been requested to regularly review the implementation of the PC&PNDT Act alongwith other programmes in their district.

Statement

Incidence of foeticide reported during 1994 to 2004

Sl.No.	State/UT	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	0	0	0	0	3	8	0	0	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	0	0	4	4	2	3	1	0	1	0	1
5.	Chhattisgarh	*	*	*	*	*	*	NA	5	0	6	6
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	6	8	6	0	1	7	0	4	9	4	0
8.	Haryana	0	0	2	3	12	8	11	3	6	2	15
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	6	0	2
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	*	*	*	*	*	*	NA	0	0	1	1
12.	Karnataka	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	7	0	4
13.	Kerala	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	16	13	12	21	9	17	12	7	4	11	9
15.	Maharashtra	14	8	11	19	24	13	40	17	10	5	15
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Orissa	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
21.	Punjab	0	0	1	0	1	3	0	7	10	11	8
22.	Rajasthan	4	3	0	3	4	3	9	8	6	12	17
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
24.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3	2
27.	Uttaranchal	*	*	*	*	*	*	NA	0	0	0	0
28.	West Bengal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total (States)	41	34	36	51	55	59	83	53	64	55	81
29.	A&N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
31.	D&N Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	0	1	0	3	1	0	2	2	20	2	4
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total(UTs)	0	1	0	5	1	0	3	2	20	2	5
	TOTAL All India	41	35	36	56	56	59	86	55	84	57	86

SOURCE: 1994-2000-MONTHLY CRIME STATISTICS 2001-2004-CRIME INDIA

NOTE: 1. NA stands for data not available

2. *States created in November, 2000

Wheat prices

†*8. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of wheat is continuously on the rise in the country;

(b) whether rise in the prices is directly affecting the poor and middle class;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.